

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL  
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION  
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY  
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II  
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)  
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

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15. Nov. 2006  
Vonnemann Kloiber & Kollegen, Hamburg

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 09 November 2006 (09.11.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 2509	<b>IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION</b>
International application No. PCT/EP2005/003283	International filing date (day/month/year) 29 March 2005 (29.03.2005)
Applicant ALBIS PLASTIC GMBH et al	

## 1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

## 2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

## 3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer  Yolaine Cussac
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2509	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2005/003283	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 29 March 2005 (29.03.2005)	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 29 March 2004 (29.03.2004)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant ALBIS PLASTIC GMBH			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 *bis*.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- |                                     |              |   |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I    | Basis of the report   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II   | Priority  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V    | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application   |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Date of issuance of this report 01 November 2006 (01.11.2006)
Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">Yolaine Cussac</div> e-mail: pt11@wipo.int

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year) **See form PCT/ISA/210**

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>2509</b>		<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. <b>PCT/EP2005/003283</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>29.03.2005</b>	Priority date (day/month/year) <b>29.03.2004</b>	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC <b>G02B6/00</b>			
Applicant <b>ALBIS PLASTIC GMBH</b>			

**1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:**

- |                                     |              |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I    | Basis of the opinion   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II   | Priority   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. III  | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. IV   | Lack of unity of invention   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V    | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VI   | Certain documents cited  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VII  | Certain defects in the international application   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application  |

**2. FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

**3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.**

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/003283

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. II

Priority

1. ☐ The following document has not yet been furnished:

- ☐ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).  
☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

The validity of the priority claim has not been considered because the International Searching Authority does not have in its possession a copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed or, where required, a translation of that earlier application. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1) is the claimed priority date.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2, 6-9	YES
	Claims	1, 3-5, 10-13..	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	2, 6-9	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

1. Reference is made hereafter to the following documents cited in the international search report:

D1: WO 01/83255 A (ROBERT BOSCH GMBH; SCHACH, HARALD; EWALD, GEORG) 8 November 2001 (2001-11-08)

D2: EP-A-1 221 628 (BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION) 10 July 2002 (2002-07-10)

D3: US-A-5 581 683 (BERTIGNOLL ET AL) 3 December 1996 (1996-12-03)

D4: US-B1-6 348 960 (ETORI HIDEKI ET AL) 19 February 2002 (2002-02-19)

D5: US-A-5 727 866 (KRAINES ET AL) 17 March 1998 (1998-03-17)

D6: DE 35 31 873 A1 (FRANZ KIRSTEN ELEKTROTECHNISCHE SPEZIALFABRIK) 12 March 1987 (1987-03-12)

D7: US-A-5 938 324 (SALMON ET AL) 17 August 1999 (1999-08-17)

2. The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1), because the subject matter of independent claim 1 is not novel within the meaning of PCT Article 33(2).

2.1 D1 discloses an illuminable information unit for technical devices or machines, visible display elements of the information unit comprising at least one light-diffusing plastic element (34, 45,

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/003283

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

46) in which transparent diffusers are embedded in a transparent plastic compound (page 7, lines 11-14).

2.2 D2 likewise discloses an illuminable information unit for technical devices or machines (page 6, lines 22-26), visible display elements of the information unit comprising at least one light-diffusing plastic element (12, 13) in which transparent diffusers are embedded in a transparent plastic compound (paragraphs [0028]-[0028], [0050]).

2.3 D3 likewise discloses an illuminable information unit for technical devices or machines (figures 5, 6, and associated passages), visible display elements of the information unit comprising at least one light-diffusing plastic element (38, 44) in which transparent diffusers (40, 46) are embedded in a transparent plastic compound (column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 25).

2.4 The subject matter of the present claim 1 is therefore anticipated by each of the three documents D1 - D3.

The subject matter of the present claim 1 is therefore not novel.

3. Furthermore, it appears that none of the features of the dependent claims is suitable in conjunction with the features of the claims on which they are dependent for defining a subject matter that would meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step, as defined in PCT Article 33(1)-(3).

In this respect, the following teachings from the prior art are to be taken into consideration:

- colouring of diffusers (claim 2): D4, column 4, lines 33-35

- polycarbonate as a transparent plastic body

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement

(claim 3): for example D1, page 7, lines 11-14

- covering layer with openings (claims 4, 5): D1, reference signs 5, 42, 21, 23, 24; 26, figure 3
- colour of the covering layer (claims 6, 7): obvious selection, see also D5, column 3, lines 3-5
- illuminating element integrated in an operating unit (claims 8, 9): D6, figure 8, column 7, line 64
- column 8, line 43)
- instrument cluster (claim 10): D1, figure 1
- light distributor (claim 11): D1, figure 3; D7, figures 1-3
- 3D surface structure of the covering (claim 12): D1, figures 1, 3; D5, figure 1
- warning light (claim 13): D1, page 4, line 13; D2, page 6, line 26